

CLAIMS

1. A shift device having an operation member for operating a vehicular automatic transmission, wherein the operation member is formed to conform to the shapes of a palm and fingers of a driver.

2. The shift device according to claim 1, wherein the operation member includes a substantially dome-shaped knob, wherein the knob has a portion on which a palm is rested and a portion for determining the positions of the fingers.

3. A shift device having an operation member for operating a vehicular automatic transmission, comprising a case, wherein the operation member includes a substantially dome-shaped knob, wherein a part of the knob protrudes from the case.

4. The shift device according to claim 3, wherein a push button is provided in the knob, and wherein a switching signal of the automatic transmission is outputted by a two-step operation including operation of the press button and operation of the knob.

5. The shift device according to claim 3, further comprising a stopper, wherein the stopper engages with a plurality of engage pieces formed in the knob, thereby locking the knob against inclination.

6. The shift device according to claim 3, wherein a plurality of holes are formed in the knob, wherein fingers of a driver are engaged with the holes.

7. The shift device according to claim 4, further comprising a detection device for detecting the selected state of shift position by the operation member, wherein the detection device

detects the selected state of the shift position when the push button is operated.

8. A switch device in a shift device for selecting an engage state of a gear train in a vehicular automatic transmission, comprising:

a resting portion, on which a palm of a driver is rested; and

a switch portion, wherein, when a palm is rested on the resting portion, the switch portion is operable by fingers of the driver.

9. The switch device according to claim 8, wherein the switch portion includes a first switch portion for selecting the engage state of the gear train in the automatic transmission, and a second switch portion for validating a signal outputted from the first switch portion.

10. The switch device according to claim 8, wherein the resting portion functions as a switch, wherein the resting portion comprises the second switch portion.

11. A shift device having a selector device for selecting an engage state of a gear train in a vehicular automatic transmission, a detection device for detecting a selected state of the gear train, and a display device for displaying the selected state selected based on a signal from the detection device, wherein the selector device includes a resting portion, on which a palm is rested, and a switch portion, which is operable by a finger.